

REMARKS

1. Summary of the Office Action

In the final office action mailed February 22, 2008s, the Examiner allowed claims 1-6, 8-31, and 33-40. In addition, the Examiner objected claims 1 and 41 because of informalities and rejected claims 41-45 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kloth (U.S. Patent 6,842,453) in view of Abaye (U.S. Patent 7,260,060).

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the allowed claims. Applicant herein has amended claim 1 and to address the Examiner's concerns and canceled claims 41-45 and therefore respectfully submits that all claims are currently being allowed.

2. Response to Objections

As noted above, the Examiner objected claim 1 because of informalities. Applicant herein has amended claim 1 to include the limitation of "in a flow switch node" as suggested by the Examiner in the final Office Action. Claim 1 currently recites "...wherein said fields are selected from Ethernet and network headers in said packet and said plurality of tags corresponds to a plurality of flow detectors in a flow switch node." However, replacing "corresponds" with "corresponding" as suggested by the Examiner seems grammatically inconsistent with the claim language. Therefore, Applicant herein respectfully submits that claim 1 is now in good and proper form.

3. Response to Rejections

With respect to claims 41-45, the Examiner rejected them under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kolth in view of Abaye. Applicant herein has canceled these claims.

4. Conclusion

The Applicant submits that the application is in good and proper form for allowance and respectfully requests the Examiner to pass this application to issue. If, in the opinion of the

Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at 312-913-3305.

Respectfully submitted,

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